

NASA-LaRC

SAFETY NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE RISK MANAGEMENT BRANCH, SSQRD

January 1992

ASBESTOS AND YOU

Asbestos exists in many facilities at LaRC in many forms and shapes. Accessible asbestos was identified in facility surveys that were conducted in the 1989 - 1991 period. Listed below are some of the questions that have been posed concerning the survey.

Question: Will the asbestos be removed from the facilities ?

Answer: No. Asbestos is generally removed as construction projects are performed in the individual facilities. Annual surveys are conducted to observe the condition of the asbestos. If it has deteriorated, or represents an employee hazard, removal or repair will be initiated.

Question: Where is the asbestos survey study information kept ?

Answer: Reports of asbestos survey results are given to Facility Safety Heads. This effort is being coordinated by Mr. C. B. Zeitman, Head, Safety Management Section, RMB, SSQRD.

Question: If I work in a facility, do I need to know anything special about asbestos?

Answer: No. Continual surveys will identify any potential problems and correction will be initiated.

Question: If I am performing a construction or maintenance activity in a facility, do I need to know anything special about asbestos in the facility ?

Answer: It depends on the task that is being performed. If hot water pipe insulation is being repaired, the presence of asbestos should have been identified before the job is initiated. If there are questions as to what the material may

be, consult the Facility Safety Head.

If asbestos is present, special procedures *are* required. As an example, the removal of asbestos pipe insulation requires the use of a plastic glove bag to isolate the material.

Remember, when in doubt, ask ! The Facility Safety Head can give you the answer or refer you to someone who can answer your concern about asbestos within a LaRC facility.

RECALL ON PORTABLE ELECTRIC SPACE HEATERS

A small quantity of Rival Model T770 electric space heaters, manufactured under GSA Contract GS-07F-17496, contain a workmanship defect. The defect is described as a loose wire termination that can lead to a shock hazard. Any heater which can be identified as described above should be immediately removed from service and returned to the Safety Office.

LaRC Special Announcement System

Employees are reminded of the LaRC Special Announcement System during inclement weather. The system can be reached by dialing 864-2111, a recording will inform the caller of the status of operating hours for the Center. In addition, local radio stations will provide this same information.